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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1836.

Improving Sandy Soils.

A correspondent at Drummondsville, U. C. wishes "to know the most profitable method of restoring to fertility, poor sandy soils."

In soils there may be "too much of a good thing;" or rather nothing is good in excess. According to Sir H. Davy, no soil is fertile that contains nineteen-twentieths of either *lime,** *sand*, or *clay;* yet turneps may grow well in a soil that consists of eleven-twelfths of sand, though eight-ninths is a better proportion; and excellent crops of wheat may be grown on soils containing more than three-fifths of sand. In those cases however, the success must greatly depend on the *other* constituents.

The same eminent chemist says, "Water, and the decomposing animal and vegetable substances in the soil, constitute the true nourishment of plants;" and though we doubt its correctness as a general proposition, we cannot doubt the importance of either to vegetation. Of water, sand admits more into its bosom in rainy weather than the heavier soils; and when its surface becomes dried by the sun and wind, the moisture rises up more freely from below. This appears however, to be the only advantage over heavier soils that a sand possesses, if we disregard the facility of its culture. It is greatly defective in absorbent power, and while an intermixture of the common earths imbibes much moisture from the atmosphere even in dry weather, sand is nearly bereft of such invisible supplies.

On another point, soils containing much clay and lime, have a decided advantage. This is their chemical action on putrescent manures, preserving them from being wasted by decomposition, and retaining them in a state of combination for the supplies of vegetation. The author of the Essay on Calcareous Manures indeed, admits but a very slight chemical energy in clay; and as he has examined the subject most attentively, his arguments are entitled to great weight.

But sandy soils are liable to another defect, which clay has no power to counteract or supply. We allude to the increase of acid substances in all soils where lime is only a minute part. It will not be necessary to discuss the subject in this place however; and though many plants will only flourish in acid soils, yet all those which are the chief objects of culture with the farmer, are always benefited by the presence of lime in considerable quantities.

The first thing therefore that we should do to improve a "poor sandy soil" would be to apply either lime or marl. Lime, as free from magnesia as it commonly is in this district, may be safely applied at the rate of one hundred bushels to the acre; but where magnesia enters in the proportion of fifteen per cent., one-half or one-third that quantity will be better, because safer. The lime should be slacked and then scattered over the surface; and if the land is in grass, it is better to leave it undisturbed for one or two seasons. If the ground is bare however, *hot* lime is best applied in the form of compost: that is, mixed with rich earth and stable manure, because the magnesia imbibes carbonic acid from the fermenting mass, and becomes *mild*. After this dressing, crops of clover well plastered, will add largely to the absorbent power of the soil, by affording the necessary supplies of vegetable matter.

We should recommend marl in preference to lime, when it can be had within convenient distances, on account of its *cheapness*. Should it be an argillaceous mixture, as marls frequently are, the clay which it contains would benefit a light sand, although a load would be of less value than a load which contains more calcareous matter.

In our district, at least three kinds of marl occur. The *first* that we shall notice, consists of immense numbers of small fresh-water shells; and we may refer to the Cayuga Marshes as one of the most remarkable localities. The *second* kind is where springs charged with carbonic acid have dissolved carbonate of lime and deposited it at the surface. Oxide of iron is often brought along by the same solvent, and for common soils it would form a valuable addition to the marl. Deposits of this nature, swelling into mounds, frequently occur between the lower ends of our parallel lakes, and the red sandstone on the north. The *third* sort occurs between the layers of limestone rock; and even this rock if it contains much argillaceous matter will molder into marl when exposed to the frost. Examples of the latter kind may be seen at Lockport, and at Jack's Reefs; and of the former between the layers of calciferous slate in Phelpstown.

Cleaveland says, "the proportion of carbonate of lime in marls may vary from 25 to 80 per cent.;" and probably the proportion is still greater in those beds where it is molded into lumps, dried, and burnt into lime for white-washing. The same author says, "The farmer in general may determine the existence of marl by its falling into powder when dried after exposure to moist air. To ascertain the proportion of its ingredients, the calcareous part may be extracted from a given weight of the marl by solution in acids, and the residue being dried and weighed, will give the quantity of clay sufficiently accurate."

It may be well to add, that muriatic acid mixed with three or four times its weight of *soft* water is preferred. Pour it over the marl after it has been well dried and pulverized; and when the mixture ceases to effervesce on being stirred, the liquid (which ought to have some sourness remaining) is to be filtered through spongy blotting paper; and the solid part which remains (being the clay and sand) is to be dried and weighed.

When the proportion of lime in the marl is ascertained, it will be easy to calculate how much of the latter will be wanted to yield 100 or 150 bushels of the former, which we think is a safe quantity per acre to begin with. Thus if the preparation is 33½ per cent., 450 bushels of marl will be equivalent to 150 bushels of lime.

The spreading of marl on the land, and more especially if it contains much clay, will be facilitated by exposing it to the frosts of winter; and consequently small heaps will be preferable. The importance of intimately mixing this manure thoroughly with the soil ought in no case to be forgotten. We suspect that one reason why "some marls do not produce their greatest effect until several years after they have been applied to the soil,"—is owing to their continuing in lumps, and not being sufficiently pulverized and intermixed with the soil.

The only objection to making a compost of marl, rich earth and stable manure, is the additional labor; for there can be no doubt of the lime's retaining and preserving the more volatile parts of the manure, which would otherwise pass off and be lost.

How far marl will bear carting profitably, must depend in no slight degree on local and particular circumstances; for instance, the state of the road, the proporton of lime, and the value of the products. If our correspondent would procure a copy of the Essay on Calcareous Manures, he would find accounts of many experiments which we are satisfied would greatly strengthen his faith in the efficacy of marl. We have no hesitation in saying that *lime* is the basis of all good husbandry; and when *it* does not exist naturally in the soil, it is properly our business when we consult our own interest, to supply it.

Lime or marl may be most usefully applied to all soils that produce red sorrel.

Grafting Plasters.

We gave some directions about a year since for making grafting plasters, in which we recommended small pieces of muslin as most suitable. An improvement, both in cheapness of material and expedition of making, consists in substituting thin brown paper. The wax when warmed, is spread upon it with great facility, and very evenly, with the blade of a common table knife. The sheet is then cut into pieces, varying in size according to the size of the stock. For small nursery stocks, two by three inches is

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* We use this term in its popular sense, without stopping to consider whether the substance which it expresses, may, or may not be, combined with acids. Lime and marl bear the same relation to each other that clean wheat bears to wheat in the chaff. Shell marl appears to contain a small portion of animal matter, which we should not expect to find in other marls.

sufficient. Larger stocks require a corresponding increase in size. In using grafting plasters, if the weather be warm sunshine, they will need no warming to soften the wax, and may be applied at once. In cooler or in cloudy weather, the warmth of the hand will be commonly sufficient; but where a large number are to be used, a large heated block of wood will be convenient, and may be placed in a basket for carrying.

The principal advantage which plasters have over the old mode of applying clay, is in their superior neatness and convenience, and the much greater ease and expedition with which they are used, only four or five seconds being required to fix one to its place. In order to insure success to the operation, they should always be gently, but very closely pressed in on all sides round the stock and slit, so as *totally* to exclude air and moisture.

The only requisite in grafting-wax is, that it be not too stiff to apply, nor so soft as to melt by the heat of the sun. In the former case it would be useless, in the latter it would run down into the slit between the graft and the stock and prevent their adhesion. Among the best kinds recommended, are the following. Two parts of tallow, two of beeswax, and four of rosin. Three parts of rosin, three of beeswax, and one of tallow. Four parts of pitch, four of rosin, two of beeswax, one of hog's lard, and one of turpentine. But varaitions may be made in all of these proportions, if the requisite degree of fusibility is preserved.

There is one point of some importance in making plasters not generally attended to. This is to have both the wax and the paper of as light a color as possible. Black substances absorb a far greater amount of solar heat than white, consequently dark colored plasters are much more liable to be melted by the hot sun.

Grafting.

A great number of different modes of grafting are practiced, and minute directions are given in books on gardening for performing the work. The young beginner is generally more bewildered than instructed by the multiplicity of these directions, unless he understands the rationale. By reducing the operation in all its modifications to its first principles, it will become greatly simplified, and the necessary particulars for success at once understood.

In order to cause an adhesion between the graft and stock, it is requisite, *first*, that the sap which flows upwards through the wood, should be able to pass uninterrupted at the place of their junction. *Hence the parts of both must be cut so as to be placed in close contact. Secondly*, it is necessary that the juices, in returning through the liber, (or inner portion of the bark,) should pass uninterrupted from the graft to the stock. *Hence these parts also must be placed exactly in contact. Thirdly*, it is necessary that the newly formed woody fibres which descend from the buds of the graft, and which serve to connect the two parts together, should pass freely from one part to the other; and also that the *cambium*, or soft substance between the bark and the wood, which serves as food for these young descending fibers, should be continued at this point of junction. *Hence the line of separation between the bark and the wood, should, both in stock and graft, be accurately adjusted.* On the accuracy with which these three parts of the operation are performed, the success mainly depends. And if these are attended to, it is immaterial how great a variety of modes are adopted. The most inexperienced and unskilful hand, if care is taken in these particulars, could scarcely fail.

Altough any mode of grafting would succeed if the above precautions were observed, yet convenience generally points out some particular one, adapted to the circumstances of the case. The most expeditious method of performing the operation when small stocks are to be grafted, is by *whip grafting*. This is the mode generally adopted in nurseries. It is performed thus. The stock and the graft are both cut off obliquely, or sloping, so as to leave a cut surface of about an inch in length. The degree of slope should be the same in both, as nearly as the operator can guess. If the cut is made by a single stroke of a sharp knife, the parts may be brought together more closely. Next make a slit in the middle of the cut face of the stock, downwards, about half an inch, and a corresponding one in the graft, upwards. Now by pressing them together, the tonge and slit in each will mutually lock together. Then, taking care not to displace them, tie them closely together with bass matting, corn husk, or other soft ligature, apply the plaster, and the work is done. When the graft begins to well from growth, remove this ligature to prevent its cutting in. Where this mode of grafting is adopted, it is desirable that the stock and the graft be of nearly equal size.

But where the stock is much larger than the graft, *cleft-grafting* is most convenient. This is done by first cutting off the stock horizontally with a large knife or saw, and a cleft is then split downwards in it an inch or two in length. The graft is then cut off on both sides in the form of a wedge, of such a shape as to fit as nearly as possible this cleft. The cleft is then kept open by a knife or wedge placed in the opposite side, and the graft, prepared as above, carefully adjusted in it, and then the wedge is withdrawn. The plaster is then applied and the operation is complete. This mode has an advantage over the former in not needing a ligature, the pressure of the jaws of the slit being sufficient to hold the graft to its place. It may be observed, that as the cleft is made lengthwise with the wood, the sap in passing from the stock to the graft flows *laterally* from its vessels, which it will do with nearly the same facility as from the ends.

As a sharp knife for cutting the joining surfaces is absolutely necessary, it is generally most convenient to employ two knives,—one for doing the chief work and in shaping the wood; and the other, exceedingly sharp, merely for paring the surfaces for contact.

In order that the ascending sap may all go to the nourishment of the graft, and not run to waste in other channels, it is important to rub or cut off the buds and sprouts on the stock, especially those near the graft. Many grafts will never grow without it.

Where standard trees have been headed down for new tops, the grafts should be set on the thriftiest shoots, and as near the body of the tree as these can be found; and strict care should be taken to cut away all overshadowing branches in their immediate vicinity. As the grafts increase in size, the old top should be gradually and finally removed.

Budded Stocks

Of the last summer, should be cut off above the bud early in spring, and all other buds except the inserted one, carefully rubbed off, so as to direct the whole energy of the plant to that alone. This must be done two or three times afterwards if new shoots should appear where minute buds have escaped the operation, as commonly happens. If the trees are apricots, plums, or peaches, the young shoots from the inserted buds are likely to be broken off by the wind. To prevent this, three or four inches of the stock above the bud should be left, to which these shoots may be tied. By this treatment, these, as well as other kinds of fruit trees, may also be made to grow more upright and straight at this point, and with less of the usual crook, than is the case in budded trees where this precaution is not taken.

Farming in the Moon.

The moon is one of the most respectable of the secondary family of planets, both in magnitude and influence, being, according to Sir Isaac Newton and Mrs. Somerville, about 2160 miles in diameter, weighing one-seventieth as much as the earth, and revolving around us in twenty-seven days and eight hours, at a medium distance of 237,000 miles. The moon has a sensible influence in causing the tides of the ocean and the atmosphere, its action in these cases being well understood, and uniform; further than this, to the philosophical observer, the power of the moon appears lost, or very limited. There is, however quite a numerous class among us, who imagine they can see farther into the operations of nature than others; and who attribute to this floating mass of matter an influence over affairs on the earth well nigh miraculous. To such the moons seems almost an object of adoration, and endowed with intelligence; they consult it carefully on all occasions; they study its phases and watch its changes with anxious solicitude; and by these various indications govern themselves accordingly. This attributing extraordinary powers to the moon, is not confined to the vulgar, the *canaille* of our country, to the uneducated and semi-civilized, but is found lurking in high places, among men who from their education and habits ought to know better, —among men who would be offended and ashamed to be called superstitious, or tinctured with any thing like reverence for the opinions of former ages.

It is of this observance of the moon, however, as operating on the interests of agriculture, that we now intend to speak; and while we are glad to say that we are confident there is much less of this superstitious feeling resting on farmers than formerly, we feel constrained to add, that it can still be traced in the conduct of many who are otherwise most intelligent and respectable. For aught that appears to us, the moon may be a good farming country for those naturalized to its climate, and accustomed to its temperature and gravity; but for us, who are inhabitants of the

earth, to insist on carrying on our farming operations on or by the moon, is most absurd and prejudicial; yet there are some who even now pursue this very course, and deem it the only safe one. It is absurd, because the long continued and repeated observations of practical farmers and scientific men have demonstrated that the assumed influence of the moon is a fable—prejudicial, because whenever we attribute our success or our failure to a wrong cause, just so far we lose the power of making our success permanent, or of avoiding similar failures in future. To illustrate the influence of these opinions on a farmer, we will select the case of two individuals, one of whom, Mr. A., does his farming in the moon; the other, Mr. B., thinks best to let that planet entirely alone. A. commences his operations with the season; he has put his garden in fine order for planting, it is well manured, is warm and dry, the beds are neatly made, and all things are ready; but before he begins to put in his seeds he despatches John for the Almanac. He examines the age of the moon attentively; it is new moon, and he lays down the Almanac. "John, put away these seeds," he says, "if we sow or plant them now, we shall get nothing but tops,"—and the papers of onion, beet, carrot, turnep and cucumber seeds, are hurried away to their receptacle, while the potatoes are removed to the cellar for further orders. In the mean time a fortnight elapses, heavy cold rains fall, his beds are beat down, weeds spring up in abundance, and when the moon gets ready for him to sow, he finds he has the most of the labor of preparing the ground to go over again, or else put in his seeds in such a manner as to render a crop nearly hopeless. Mr. B., who does his gardening on the earth, who has no scruples of conscience on the subject of the moon, and rarely consults for that purpose his Almanac, had prepared his ground at the same time with his neighbor, and while it was in a good state put in his seed. As the summer came on he had an abundant crop and early supply of vegetables, much to the surprise of the observer of seasons, who charges his failure upon any but the true cause.

Mr. A. put his summer fallow for wheat in good tilth, but when the time for sowing came he was in such a hurry to get in his seed while the moon was in the right place, that he had no time to clean his wheat from the chess and other foul weeds; and after all, he fell some behind what he deemed the best time in the moon. The consequence is, his wheat is one quarter chess, which he insists is caused by the moon's turning wheat to chess. B. got his land in order at the same time with A., but, without any reference to the moon, he spent two days in thoroughly cleaning his seed from every thing but the pure wheat, and at harvest he had one of the most beautiful fields in the whole country. B. does not believe that wheat turns to chess—at least he is confident it does not on his farm.

If A. is about to construct a common rail fence, he very carefully lays the stones in the moon, as in that way he imagines he effectually secures the corners from settling. B. thinks if he can secure good flat stones, and place them properly, the moon will not influence his fence in the least; and the excellent condition of his enclosures is strong testimony in favor of the correctness of his opinion.

Mrs. A., before commencing that important operation for a good housewife, making soap, carefully consults the calendar, assured that if the moon is right the soap will be of the required quality; but if otherwise, that no skill can prevent its being good for nothing. Still she frequently fails, and spends much time in wondering what the matter possibly can be. Mrs. B., like her husband, does not consult the moon at all. She is only anxious that the grease should be clean, the ashes well put up, with a sufficient quantity of fresh lime at the bottom of the leach, and then she feels certain that her soap will be made well and quickly; nor is she often disappointed.

Mr. A. is confident that if by any accident he should kill his beef or pork while the moon was on the decrease, it would shrink in cooking precisely in the same ratio with that luminary; and he would half starve his hogs for a fortnight, rather than slaughter them when these unfavorable indications were present. It is strange, however, that in spite of his observance of the moon, there is annually a most wonderful and premature shrinkage of his pork, not only in the pot, but in the barrel—a consumption which, as in the case of Falstaff's purse, he has as yet found no cure for. In the eastern states this leanness of barrel and larder most usually afflicts those who live principally on shad; but the shrinkage in this case is not attributed directly to silver Dian herself, but to the "minions of the moon." Mr. B. has no fears on this score; he sees that his beef and his pork is well fatted, and then butchers when he is ready, or most convenient. It is needless to say, his pot and barrel possess such magical properties, that shrinkage or leanness is not one of the evils that approach his table.

To close this paper, we advise all our farming friends to remember, that their business is with the earth, and that planting or farming in the moon, is one of the poorest of speculations. Careful and repeated experiments of Nardmann, Richman, Buffon and Reamur, have proved that the age of the moon has no influence whatever, either on the germination of seeds, the increase of plants, the rapidity of their development, or upon their maturity or quality. Let then this absurd reliance on the moon perish and be forgotten. G.

Ornamental Plants.

In a late number of our paper (page 51) we made extracts from Joseph Breck's observations *On hardy herbaceous plants for ornamenting the parterre, border or shrubbery.* We resume our notices of that interesting article.

"Coreopsis Grandiflora.

"Great flowered.

"The flowers are not so large however, as *C. lanceolata*, or so handsome. Its habits are different from the other species, having creeping roots,* which throw up in every direction stems not more than one foot high, with compound, much divided leaves; leaflets linear. As an exception to the other species, this is *somewhat tender*, and requires protection."

* Some other species of *Coreopsis* have creeping roots. *C. pinnata* in a soil that suits it, extends its stems so as to occupy a space of several feet in diameter.—Ed. Gen. Far.

Coreopsis Tinctoria.

In speaking of this plant, he says, "Some of the improved varieties are elegant. The flowers generally are of a fine orange yellow with a brown center; in some varieties *the flowers are much larger*, the rays of which are *only bordered* with orange, while the *remainder* with the disk is rich dark brown. Common as it is, it will always be considered as one of the standard ornamental annuals."

Spiræa Tomentosa.

"One of the most obtrusive shrubby plants to be met with in waste ground throughout our country is *Spiræa tomentosa*, known by the name of steeple-bush, purple hard-hack, &c, with purple flowers in crowded, sub-panicled spikes. However unacceptable this troublesome bush may be to us, it is named as being ornamental in England."

Our ideas of beauty are very much influenced by extraneous objects. The Stag's Horn Sumach, from its frequently growing in some neglected part of the farm, recalls the idea of old fences half down, and thickets of briers and perennial weeds. From this circumstance alone, for it is one of our most beautiful shrubs—beautiful both in its foliage and its fruit—it is considered by many farmers as a nuisance; and they would instantly impeach the taste of him who should dare to cultivate it. From a similar cause the *Spiræa tomentosa* in its native localities is in no favor. Yet it is the finest of all the shrubby species of that genus that we have seen; and the one which we have been the most ambitious to procure for the ornament of our grounds. After many unsuccessful attempts, at last we have induced it to flourish. The difficulty was to prepare a soil for it adapted to its nature. No inconsiderable number perished, until we planted it in a depression, and instead of covering its roots with the calcareous loam of our district, we laid on bog moss and rotten wood, interspersing through it a mixture of muck and sand. The roots, now no longer oppressed by a heavy soil, spread through the spongy mass, rising nearly to the surface, and we have been rewarded by the display of its beautiful pink blossoms.

Spiræa Lobata.

"A beautiful species indigenous to some part of the country, but not in New England. Flowers red or deep pink, in proliferous corymbs; two feet high."

There are two varieties of this species: The smaller is from Siberia, represented by Loudon as two feet high, and which we have cultivated for several years. The other variety is a native of the Western States, where we have seen it at least five feet high in rich moist grounds. We have not been able to procure it until last season. Of all the herbaceous species, in our estimation this is the most beatiful.

Fat Cattle.

Mr. B. W. Durfee slaughtered the present week a yoke of superior oxen, fatted by Mr. John Ayrault of Perrinton. They weighed 3805 lbs., and are said to have been equal to any ever before slaughtered here.

COMMUNICATIONS.

LETTERS FROM A FATHER,

Living in the State of New York,

To his Son in Western Pennsylvania.

NO. XV.

On the Culture of Silk—Soils Unfavorable

TO MULBERRY TREES, &C.

To MY SON—I had as you know, for several years preceding the visit which I made you last fall, been urging you in my letters to plant the Mulberry, and prepare, with all practicable speed, to commence the culture of silk. Having been repeatedly informed, by yourself and others, that you had done as I had advised you to do—had planted the seeds which I sent you, and brought into existence an extensive nursery of young trees, I expected, when I visited you, to find in your possession a fine Mulberry grove. I did indeed find Mulberry trees in your possession, and as many of them as had been expeected. I found too, to my entire satisfaction, that you had been respectfully obedient to the advice and counsel of your father, in paying all proper attention to the Mulberry interest. But great was my disappointment, and deep my regret, when I came to find that your trees were not thrifty, that many of them were either dead or dying, and that all were of a sickly aspect, exhibiting the most conclusive evidence, that the soil in which they grew were not congenial to them. At this I was the more surprised, because I had uniformly understood, from the most credible sources of information, that the Mulberry was peculiarly accommodating as to soils; that it would thrive in almost any soil sufficiently dry, and especially in soils congenial to the growth of corn and apple trees. It cannot, I think, be disputed, that the soil of your farm is pretty well adapted to the growth of corn, and I have rarely seen a more thrifty young orchard of apple trees, than the one which you cultivate, and several others in that vicinity. Here then seemed to be a case, contradicting all the known theories relative to the subject.

At the time when I saw your Mulberry trees, I could not conjecture the cause of their appearing so sickly and unpromising. Subsequently I observed in one of the periodicals, the Silk Culturist I think, a remark, that the Mulberry would not thrive well on soils which rested on hard and impervious subsoils. The reason assigned was, that the Mulberry is inclined, as is known to be the fact, to send down its roots to a great depth in the earth. When a hard-pan lies under the soil at only a small distance from the surface, the tree is forbidden thus to send down its roots, and of course, not being allowed to follow the propensity of its nature, it sickens, and if it continues to live, it maintains only a feeble existence. This, I have no doubt, is the cause of your misfortune. It is understood that the soil in which your Mulberry trees were planted, does in fact rest upon a hard-pan, which lies at no considerable distaane below the surface of the ground.

I deeply regret the failure of your Mulberry experiment. It is, indeed, to you a serious misfortune. For several years I had been indulging the pleasing expectation, that in a short time the culture of silk would become the most productive branch of your industry. Nothing would have been needed to hinder this, if Mulberry trees would have grown and been thrifty on your soil. I considered, and do still consider, the culture of silk as capable of becoming one of the most profitable branches of industry that can be attached to rural husbandry. To the scale of your farming business, and to the circumstances of your growing family, it would have been, I am perfectly sure, most happily adapted. One of your brethren-in-law, who lives at some distance from this place, and who commenced planting the Mulberry when you did, produced and manufactured silk, last year, to the value of $100. This was done entirely by the industry of his small family, and caused no perceptible hindrance of any other kind of business.

I labored several years almost alone in this section of the country, trying to rouse general attention to the advantages which our citizens might gain by introducing the culture of silk. At first it was hard to make proselytes to the faith of this new theory, and for a while the work of proselyting was slow in its progress. But now the work is done. Almost the whole community is proselyted. A general and deep conviction prevails every where, that the culture of silk offers to our citizens extraordinary advantages. Never before were the citizens of this whole country, including nearly every state in the union, so generally desirous to become interested in any branch of business, as they now are to engage in the culture and manufacture of silk. Owners and occupants of land, who discern the signs of the times, and understand their own interest, will now hasten to introduce the Mulberry on to their premises, and prepare, with all possible speed, to participate in the advantages to be derived from the husbandry of silk worms.

Although your Mulberry experiment has hitherto been unsuccessful, yet I am unwilling to believe that you can have no share of the advantages and emoluments which the culture of silk is capable of affording. Do not abandon the object. Be patient with them a little longer—dig about them, and do what you can to encourage their growth. Especially take good care of the one *Chinese* Mulberry which you obtained from the cuttings that I sent you. It is possible that species of the Mulberry, which, if it will grow and endure the winters, is far better than the other, will do well on your soil. From the one which you have obtained, you will be able to propagate very rapidly, either by cuttings, or by hooking down limbs early in the season, and covering a small part of each limb so hooked with a little earth. If there is on your farm any location where the soil does not rest upon hard-pan, you may confidently expect that Mulberry trees will grow there to good advantage. I am satisfied that much of the sountry in which you live, is well adapted to the growth of the Mulberry. Only about one mile from your residence I saw, as you will recollect, one or two Mulberry trees, which were thrifty, and had every appearance of being perfectly at home as to soil. Their venerable proprietor, your much respected father-in-law, would do well to appropriate several acres of his farm to the growth of such trees. What an income might, in a few years, be derived from only five or six acres thus applied! An income, I venture to say, many times greater than can in any other way be derived from the whole of his extensive farm.

Although you may not be benefited by cultivating Mulberry trees, yet it is believed many of your neighbors and fellow-citizens will, and that the time is not far distant, when the culture of silk will be chiefly relied upon to supply the pecuniary resources of all that community. Such being the prospects, I will, for the benefit of those who may desire to undertake the business, offer a few directions for cultivating the Mulberry. The seeds may be obtained at the seed-stores in Rochester, Albany, and New York. No doubt they may be obtained too at Philadelphia. They will cost probably about 50 cents an ounce. One ounce of good seed may be expected to produce several thousand trees. The proper time to sow them is about the time of planting corn. Probably the best way to sow them is, to sow nearly as onions are usually sown, and they will require similar attentions. The second year the trees should be transplanted, and put out in regular nursery form. All this is very simple business; but it is not perfectly easy to know the best manner of setting Mulberry trees, when they are intended to be set for permanent plantations.

It is, I believe, now generally considered, that setting Mulberry plantations as apple trees are usually set in orchards, which was the way formerly practiced in New England, is not the best way. The opinion prevails extensively, and it is my own opinion, that it is better to set them in a much denser form. I did formerly, when consulted on the subject, as was frequently the case, give advice to set Mulberry trees in rows eight feet apart, and two feet from each other on the rows. In pursuance of advice so given, many Mulberry plantations in this section of the country have been regulated. But subsequent observation and reflection have convinced me, that eight feet is not a sufficient distance between the rows. I am now satisfied it will be better to have the rows twelve feet apart, and the trees on the rows not quite so dense as was formerly supposed advisable.

The plan here suggested offers many advantages. It gives room for the trees to spread, and they will spread in a little time sufficiently to overshadow the whole space. It gives room also to go into every part of the plantation with a team and carriage, either to carry dung, remove crops, or gather leaves for silk worms. The ground planted with trees in rows twelve feet apart, is susceptible of convenient tillage, and it may be tilled two or three years after the young trees are planted, and made to produce nearly as much corn, potatoes, or beans, as it would if no trees were there. I have adopted this mode of planting, and am much pleased with the conveniencies and advantages which it seems to promise. Should a gentleman, interested in the subject of his inquiry, ask my opinion relative to the best manner of setting Mulberry trees for permanent plantations, my answer would be, set them in rows twelve feet apart, and at the distance of three feet from each other on the rows. I should advise him too, by all means, to leave a border of ten feet or more all round the inclosure, unoccupied with trees. The object of this would be, to reserve a convenient passage for a team

and carriage to and from every part of the inclosure.

A FATHER.

New York State, March, 1836.

Importance of the Root Culture in Sheep Husbandry.

Our wool growers are beginning to estimate the importance of cultivating a supply of roots, especially of the ruta baga, for feeding their flocks in the winter season and early part of the spring. Many of them having run their flocks high into the Saxon blood, they find a greater difficulty in raising the lambs, than formerly with the old Merino breed. This difficulty arises partly from the more tender constitution of the Saxon sheep; but *principally* from a lack of milk in the ewes at the period of lambing, unless this period be quite late, and if late, the lambs do not get sufficient growth to be strong before the setting in of winter. If a plentiful supply of this nutritious food, in addition to their dry fodder, be furnished through the winter, or at least through the latter part of it, and the early spring months, before the grass starts, it is reasonable to suppose that the sheep will be in better heart, the ewes will be stronger, and consequently will bring forth stronger lambs; but what is of paramount importance, they will have a supply of milk for their offspring. The lambs may come much earlier, will thus have a better growth, will be more hardy at the approach of winter, and will shear a greater weight of fleece the ensuing spring. These are the great advantages confidently expected to result from the feeding of roots to sheep. Several of our wool growers in this vicinity the past season have raised from one-fourth to half an acre of ruta baga as an *experiment*, and are highly pleased with the result thus far. Mr. John Magee of Bath, Cashier of the Steuben County Bank, raised the last season, on less than half an acre of ground, on the river flats, 1100 bushels, the greatest yield of which we have ever heard. Some of them weighed 17½ lbs. with the tops. So well pleased are they with their experiment, and so sensible of the advantages of the root culture in sheep husbandry, that they intend raising at least an acre the ensuing summer. Others, stimulated by this example, are procuring seed to sow the coming season.

Several simple methods have been suggested for cutting the turneps. Mr. L. Hammond of this place, who has raised a fine crop of ruta baga the last season, proposes a machine on the principle of the bark mill, with an upright shaft passing through a cast-iron hopper, to be worked by horse power. Mr. Wm. Baker proposes a still more simple and cheap apparatus, consisting of a spring pole fixed over head, with a heavy block hung at the end, with several knives set in it at proper distances; the roots are to be placed on another block set endwise; by a single stroke of the knives they are cut into several pieces, the elasticity of the pole raising the knives up again, and thus with ease and expedition the roots are cut as fine as necessary. If there are other better methods, those who practice them would confer a favor by making them known through the columns of the Genesee Farmer.

W. W. B.

Hammondsport, March 13, 1836.

Pruning Forest and Fruit Trees.

BY W. G.

The operation of pruning, like every other business of the farm, should be the result of system, and conducted with a definite and well understood object, a course very different from the haphazard manner in which it is too frequently performed. The desired shape and form of the tree—the kind of tree to be pruned, whether fruit or forest tree, should be considered, and every branch should be cut off with reference to these things. It is evident at sight, that a tree to produce fruit in perfection, should be subjected to a very different treatment from one intended for forest growth, or timber alone. In the first a large open top or crown is required—in the last the great effort should be to keep the top from spreading, and the leading stem upright and free.

In order to keep a tree perfectly under command, and the direction of its branches under control, pruning should be commenced when the tree is small, and continued yearly, or as often as the operation is required. Yet in riding about the country, the stunted, scrubby trees, and inferior fruit, that are so frequently presented, proves that this important business of the farm is mostly overlooked, or very imperfectly attended to. Fruit trees should be so pruned as to bring every part as much into the sun and air as possible. Some kinds, such as the apple, produce fruit in all parts of the top, and if that is left thick and compressed, the apples in the interior being excluded from light and air will be small, and of a very inferior quality. Care should therefore be taken to leave such branches as have a proper inclination and spread, so as to afford the greatest possible exposed surface to the sun.

The training of two upright stems, as we frequently witness in fruit orchards, should from the first be carefully avoided, and where they have been permitted to exist, no time should be lost in removing one of them from the tree. When young, such a stem may be cut off without injury, but when they have become large they cause a large wound; still it is better to run the risque of this, than to have them, when heavily laden with fruit, split down, as they most assuredly will, and thus destroy the tree. Peach and plum trees are peculiarly liable to this result, nor indeed are any trees entirely exempt. The horizontal branches are so firmly supported by the intertwining of their fibers with those of the main stem, that they rarely fail, while divided upright stems never firmly unite, and are therefore always in danger. In addition to the difficulty of giving a proper shape to trees when pruning has been long neglected, another serious evil must be encountered in the decayed places so apt to occur where large branches are cut off, in which worms and insects find a harbor, and where blue birds and woodpeckers not unfrequently make a lodgment, and thus perpetuate the mischief. To prevent this evil, most of our respectable farmers and orchardists make a practice of covering such places when the wounds are first made, with some preparation which will exclude air and moisture, such as the wax used for grafting—with paint laid on with a brush—with tar thickened with brick-dust—or, what in the situation of some is better than any of these, with tar hardened by use and exposure, and taken from the axles of wagons, carts, &c. Any of these may be useful, and the more so in proportion to their durability, as such covering preserves the dry wood from decomposition, and by the exclusion of air, somewhat assists the formation of new wood and bark.

As to the proper time of pruning, various, and in effect, contradictory opinions have been advanced, almost every season of the year having been alternately proposed. Mr. McMahon, in his American Gardener, says, "as early in this month (March) as possible, finish pruning your cherries and plums—also before the end thereof, your apple and pear trees. Peaches, nectarines, apricots, almonds, quinces, &c. should also be pruned early in the month, if not done before. The pruning of all kinds of fruit trees should be finished before the buds begin to swell or push."

Judge Buel's directions for pruning are—"Begin to prune when the tree is young;—cut close and smooth to the bole or limb;—cut when small all the branches which will require to be removed at a more advanced period of growth;—do not trim to excess;—do not prune when the tree bleeds;—and *prune in the summer*." To justify the innovation of summer pruning, he refers to Pontey and Sang, foreign writers of merit, the first of whom says—"As a general rule, summer is preferable to winter pruning"—and the latter of whom suspends pruning "from the the beginning of February to the middle of July, but carries it on during every other season of the year." The time recommended by Judge Buel for summer pruning, "is between the first and second growth, late in June or early in July." The reasons he assigns for summer pruning are, "1st. It causes no loss of sap;—2d. The wounds are readily healed by the aid of the already descending elaborated sap; and 3d. That shoots seldom grow from the edges of wounds made in summer pruning."

The Genesee Farmer, vol. 3, page 11, says—"May is the proper month for pruning in this latitude."

David Thomas, one of the best authorities, says, "In regard to the season for trimming, I am rather partial to the winter, or indeed to any time when the sap does not flow. The stump being comparatively dry, especially if we defer the coating for a few days, I have believed it in a better condition to receive the paint, than when the buds are just opening into leaf. The argument that the new wood in summer pruning immediately begins to cover up the wound, I think possesses but little weight."

Mr. Kenrick, in the New American Orchardist, says—"The most suitable time for pruning is that interval between the time the frost is out of the ground in the spring, and the opening of the leaf."

The result of these conflicting opinions in our mind has been, not that pruning was not useful and indispensable, but that it makes but little difference at what season of the year the operation is performed, with the exception perhaps of a month or two in the spring, while the sap is ascending most rapidly, and in consequence the tree is most liable to suffer injury from bleeding. If, as Judge Buel states, one of the results of summer pruning is to prevent the formation of sprouts or shoots from the wound, a great point

has been gained; but we do not recollect any experiments that go to sustain this opinion, agreeable as it certainly is to the correct theory of vegetation. It is to be wished that farmers and orchardists would, by fair and thorough experiment, settle the question of pruning, and by publishing the results, enlighten the great body of their brethren on this topic. Till this is done let farmers prune their orchards when most convenient, (with the exception made above,) and a great increase of fruit, both in quality and quantity, will, we are confident, be the result. W. G.

Query—Potatoes.

Mr. Tucker—Will you, or some one of your correspondents, show whether different kinds of potatoes, being planted together, will produce an amalgamated crop, or whether the seeds only will be affected by their contiguity? The following facts induce me to make the inquiry. Spring before last, a yard on my farm was planted with what are here called Mercer potatoes, a kind so farinaceous and productive withal, that I concluded to raise no other. However, it so happened that hogs broke into the yard and destroyed a great many hills, and as there were no Mercer potatoes to replace those that were missing, a kind which I have been accustomed to call Mohawks was substituted. This is a roundish, flesh-colored potatoe, which often grows large and yields well. Last spring I planted a patch with Mercer potatoes raised in that yard. I am confident that I planted no other kind, and the difference in shape and countenance between them and Mohawks is so strongly marked, that to mistake the one for the other would be an egregious blunder. Notwithstanding, on digging my potatoes last fall, I found a great many hills of Mohawks. I am no botanist, but have heard or read, that the mingling of one vegetable with another is effected by the pollen of one plant being communicated to the pistils of the other, and effecting the seeds only. But I do not conceive how to account for the above mentioned facts, unless an influence was communicated from the blossom through the stalk to the young potatoe and occasioned the change.

Cabbage.

Since I have opened a communication, before I close I will give some account of an experiment I have made in raising cabbages, which may perhaps be useful as well as curious to some of your readers. Last spring I set some cabbage stumps in my garden by the side of a patch of greensward, with a view of using them for sallad and greens occasionally. They were of a kind I did not wish to raise seed from, as I had that which I thought was better. Therefore, when I found a sprout about to blossom, I broke it off. After a while blossoms ceased to appear, and the shoots began to take the form of heads. I selected a couple of stumps for a trial of what I might advance them to, and divesting them of all but one sprout a piece, made hills around them. The result of the experiment was, that those two stumps produced, early, two very large heads of cabbage. One of these heads was used in summer, and the other remained in the garden until fall. When I took up the cabbage, I found that the hill had been raised a little above the junction of the old stump and sprout, and that roots had put forth from the latter. It separated easily from the old stump, and I intend to set it out this spring. I will add, that the stumps from which I plucked the seed sprouts, and did nothing more, produced several heads a piece, and some of very good size.

Respectfully yours, Daniel Reed.

Le Roy, March 28, 1836.

Mildew on the Vine.

BY A. ELY.

Mr. Tucker—Mildew is the greatest enemy to the grape of any thing that has come under my observation. Whenever it attacks the cluster, it immediately toughens the skin of the berry, retards the growth and ripening, and when the pulp swells, the skin cannot expand, and of course the berry bursts. There are various opinions respecting the mildew—some consider it an animal, and others a vegetable substance; but let any person that has a microscope or good eye-sight, single out a fair cluster of grapes that is slightly affected, and fumigate it with tobacco smoke, and I presume that he will see the legs or tendrils somewhat in the shape of a web drawn up to a small black point not larger than the point of the finest cambric needle. Mildew may be found at the roots of the vine, four inches under ground, and on all parts of the vine, particularly at the joints. This animalcula endures the changes of weather to a surprising degree. By stripping off the outer bark from the vine, and whitewashing, with the addition of as much common salt to the wash as can be dissolved, I have diminished them very materially, and hope by the aid of others and my own exertions to be able completely to rid the vines of these noxious vermin. A. Ely

Rochester, April 2, 1836.

Transplanting the Poplar.

The difficulty of transplanting this beautiful forest tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) with success is well known. I have been informed by a horticultural friend, that the most favorable time for the operation, is when the leaves begin to expand: at that period, the removal will succeed about three times out of four. This is certainly the best state to transplant the locust, (*Robinia,*) and it may apply to various other kinds of trees.

P.

Remedy for Corns.

Saddle the toe afflicted just behind the corn with a pack of cotton, and wear it six weeks. The pack should be thick enough to take off the pressure of the shoe. A certain cure.

W. B. M.

Staggers in Horses and Sheep.

This disorder has been rather common in Parsonsfield and some of the neighbouring towns. A number of animals have died with it. Much has been written and said concerning the cause and cure of this disorder. It prevails at different seasons of the year, affects animals that work as well as those that are idle, and such as are in the stable as well as those that run in the pasture. It is evident that there are many causes of the disease. In the winter it is doubtless mostly occasioned by animals being confined to dry fodder, which produces costiveness. A fever is excited, and there is an influx of blood to the brain. As the disorder results from a disordered state of the stomach, feeding on roots would doubtless be a good prevention. Potatoes with salt would be very good, as they are a gentle purgative.

Symptoms. The symptoms of the staggers are drowsiness, inflamed eyes, half shut and full of tears, the appetite bad, the disposition to sleep gradually increased, subtleness, a continual hanging of the head, or resting it on the manger, tearing, falling and lying in a state of insensibility, walking in a circle for a considerable length of time, the ears hot with a burning fever, &c. &c.

Remedy. Bleeding and the most active purgatives are recommended. A skilful physician informs us that he has frequently known the following dose to give immediate relief to horses. It is warm, stimulating, and a powerful physic.

Four ounces *aloes*, one ounce gum myrrh, pounded fine, sifted through a coarse sieve, and given in warm sweetened water, or in half a pint of gin with warm water. Some writer recommends giving one ounce of *aloes* dissolved in hot water, and then one-fourth of an ounce every four hours until purging is produced Other purgatives may be given if *aloes* be not at hand.—*Yankee Farmer.*

Great Corn Crop.

Mr. Philip Raybold, of Red Lion Hundred, has sent us the following statement of the crop of corn produced last season, in three of his fields. Mr. Raybold is probably the largest farmer in New Castle county, Del. and the following results will show that he may fairly claim a rivalry with the best in the country:

One field of	22	acres,	2216 bushels,
"	30	"	2249 bushels and 3 pecks
"	27	"	1818 bushels.
	79	acres,	6284 bushels and 3 pecks.

It will thus be seen, that in a field of 22 acres, the yield exceeded 100 bushels of corn per acre. The whole crop on 79 acres, averages nearly 80 bushels.—*Del. Jour.*

White Mulberry Trees,

As well as the Morus multicaulis, are in great demand this spring. One gentleman in this town, has been offered $30 per thousand and refused it. More White Mulberry seed will be sown this spring, so far as we can learn from different quarters, than has been planted for five years. As an article of profit, aside from the design of raising cocoons, we know of no more lucrative investment. They can be sold any hour for *Cash*, and the expense of cultivating them is comparatively nothing. In this season of scarcity of hay and grass, had our farmers occupied part of their ground with mulberry trees, rather than grazing cattle, the difference in their favor would be immensely great. The large silk companies going into operation this spring will consume all trees which can be purchased. The supply is not half equal to the demand. And whether the trees are sold or not, is not a matter of much consequence. The value of a farm with Mulberry trees standing in all the waste places, around outhouses and fences and in every unoccupied spot, must increase its intrinsic value immensely.—*Northampton Courier.*

Strawberries.

As soon as your beds are bare in the spring, spread over them a slight covering of straw, and set fire to it. This will consume all the decayed leaves, &c. left last season, and leave the whole neat and clean. Then spread on a little fine manure from the yard, or ashes, (which answers quite as well;) and then a covering of chaff, say two inches thick.—This method is said to bring the plants and fruit forward earlier; and to make the latter larger and of better quality. It keeps the fruit clean and ripens it finely.—The burning over is recommended by Rev. Dr. Miller of Princeton, and other experienced cultivators. The use of chaff is practiced by the editor of the Southern Agriculturist, (he uses *rice* chaff;) who last year gathered from half an acre of plants, in six weeks, 48 bushels of the finest fruit. It was sold for 25 cents a quart; and yielded therefore the aggregate sum of $360.—*Vermont Fa.*

List of Payments

For the Farmer from March 18, to April 8, 1836.

For vol. 6.

Wm. Scott.
A. Burns.
Benj. Prall.
C. M. Polk.
Wyllys Fenn.
Anson Hall.
Nathan Webb.
James Grianger.
Allen Daniels.
G. W. Gibbons.
Isaac Preston.
Azariah Bickford.
Amos Dawley.
Joel Hall.
J. Deming.
Edward W. Smith.
Martin Newcomer.
Wm. J. Wood.
Barnabas H. Pickle.
George Longly.
Joseph Wright.
James Van Dusen.
Nathan M. Mann.
Aaron Riley.
John D. Hearty.
Orlo Steele.
M. M. Turner.
P. S Parsons.
Isaac P. Carmaldt.
J. R. Caldwell.
Joseph Savage.
Warren Thompson.

First half of vol. 6.

A. J. Caldwell.
Garry Treat.
Isaac Jacobs.
Ira Doty.
James H. Thorn.

For vols. 4 *&* 5.

Luther Willson.
T. C. Magee.
G. Brooks.
Daniel Royer.

From Ap. 1*st to Oct.* 1*st.*

Hiel Rowley.
Elias Harman.

From Oct. 1, 1835, *to April* 1, 1836.

Horace Lee.
S. Nichols.

For vol. 6 *& half of* 7.

D. A. Ogden.
Sam'l E. Spencer.

Wm. B. Munson, from Jan. 1, 1834, to Oct. 1, 1838.

Wm. Hadley, for vols. 6 and 7.

Job Roberts, for vol. 7.

Ansel M'Kinstry, for last half of vols. 6 and 7.

J. Roger, Jr., from July, 1836, to July, 1837.

Ely's Vineyard,

HALF a mile east of the Court-House, and 20 rods north of Main street, where may be had various kinds of Grape Vines, from one to six years' growth, at various prices, from one dollar down to six cents, according to the age and quality of the vine. Also Grape Vine Cuttings.

ALSO—Plum, Pear, Peach, Apple, and Locust Trees, and Shrubbery of different kinds.

The infirmities incipent to old age, induces me to offer the premises for *SALE* The lot contains two acres of land handsomely laid out, the center part mostly filled with grape vines, surrounded with fruit trees and shrubbery—the whole nearly inclosed by a board fence and a locust hedge.

Notwithstanding the unprecented cold and frosty weather, we gathered more than 4,000 lbs. of grapes the last season. Had the season been usually good, we probably should have obtained as many as 6,000 lbs. One vine had more 1500 clusters, and we gathered 220 lbs. of grapes. Had they ripened well there would have been a great addition to the weight, for as it was, many rotted on the ground. There is a decent and convenient Dwelling House on the lot nearly finished.

An indisputable title will be given, and payments made easy.

If the place is not sold, it will be let on shares for the ensuing season ALEXANDER ELY.

Rochester, April 7, 1936. ap 9-ff

Rochester Seed Store,

NO. 5 ARCADE AVENUE, 2 DOORS FROM THE POST-OFFICE.

THE subscribers, having completed their arrangements for the season, now offer to the public a fine assortment of English and American Field and Garden Seeds, all of which were raised *the past season* in the most careful manner for this establishment, or obtained from the most respectable and responsible foreign sources, and their vitality tested before offered for sale. Being determined to sell nothing but what is of the best quality, and at as low prices as they can be had elsewhere, they are confident that with regard to *variety*, *quality* and *price*, they cannot fail to give general satisfaction, and convince the public that they have *not* "great need of a *new importing English Seed Office*."

☞ The public are most particularly "requested to consult their own interests," by planting their gardens at the best time, in the best manner, with the best seeds; "as they will make a GREAT saving."

Silk Worms' Eggs, Mulberry Seed and Trees, for sale. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

april 7-fartf

The two imported Horses,

"TURK" and "ALFRED,"

Will serve a limited number of mares this season, 1836.

"*TURK*,"

WAS bred by Wm. Cobb, Esq, of Lonsbro', Yorkshire, England, is 3 years old, and of a fine bay color. He was got by Goodlass' Catfoss, his dam by Rotsey's Old Volunteer, grand-dam by Battle Stephenson's noted horse Caythorp, great grand-dam by Laurence Stephenson's old horse, which went in one season to 300 mares. Catfoss was got by Young Turk, his dam by Volunteer, grand-dam by Dunsley's noted Coach horse.

The sire of "*Turk*" was allowed to be the best horse that traveled England, and carried off the premiums wherever he was shown; such was the anxiety to obtain his breed, that every gentleman put to him his own stock.

"*ALFRED*,"

Was bred by Mr. Fox of Byton, county of York, England, is 4 years old, and of a rich bay color, was got by Strickland's King Alfred, his dam by Mr. Stubb's old horse, grand-dam by Frank's Volunteer, great grand-dam by Harrison's horse of Sketenbec. Mr. Stubb's old horse was by Dunsley's old horse, dam by Owston's horse of Seamer. Mr. Dunsley's horse was by Agar's Old Dart, dam by Old Rainbow. Frank's Volunteer was by Milner's Old Volunteer of Brandsburton. King Alfred was bred by Sir George Strickland, and was got by Providence, dam by Nichols' Coach horse, grand-dam by Etty's Coach horse. Providence was by Peerless, dam by Volunteer, &c. &c.

The above horses are from the most valuable and celebrated breeds in England, from whence they were brought to this country by Thomas Weddle, now of East Bloomfield, Ontario county, their present owner.

TERMS.

"TURK"—20 dollars each mare,
"ALFRED"—10 dollars do.

Payment 1st January by approved notes without interest.

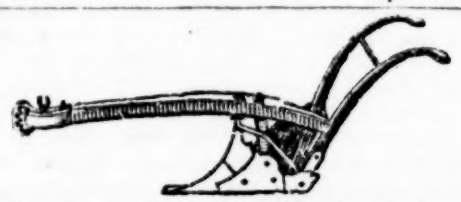
Those desirous of putting mares are requested to give in their names as early as possible, as the horses will only be allowed to serve a small number this season, and the list has already receied many subscribers. They are the joint property of the said Thomas Widdle and George Wordon of Seneca, to either of whom reference may be made for any further particulars.

These horses will stand at Mr. Fordon's, who resides one mile south of Dr. Woodworth's Tavern, Flint Creek, on the Canandaigua and Geneva Turnpike.

Good accommodations for the mares, (which are to be at the owner's risk,) and every attention will be paid to them. THOMAS WEDDLE.

The old Norton Farm, E Bloomfield, April 1*st*, 1836.

The noted Bull "ROVER," (imported by Thomas Weddle,) of the pure improved Durham Short Horn breed, will stand at Mr. Fordon's during the months of June and July next for cows, at 5 dollars each. apri 9-f4t



Rochester Plough Factory,

(JACKSON'S OLD STAND,) NO. 90, STATE STREET.

THE subscriber is now finishing a large assortment of Ploughs of the most approved patterns, and warranted of first rate eastern castings and good timber.

Also—Cultivators and Road Scrapers, made of cast iron, and a first rate article. A general assortment of Shares, Land Sides, and other articles for repairing, constantly on hand, which he flatters himself will be an inducement to farmers to give him a call, instead of buying ploughs that are sent into the country from a distance, and no certainty of getting shares, &c. for repairing Repairing done at short notice. Cash paid for old cast iron.

P. D. WRIGHT.

Rochester, March 12, 1836. mar 18-f3trtf

Chaptals Agricultural Chemistry

A FEW copies of this new and valuable work for sale at the Rochester Seed Store.

april 9-f1t REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Seed Agencies

IN LOCKPORT, BUFFALO & LE ROY.

THE proprietors of the Rochester Seed Store, have appointed G. W. Merchant, Lockport, Messrs. W. & G. Bryant, Buffalo, and Messrs. Gates & Bradley, Le Roy, Agents for selling their Seeds.

At each of the above places, the public will find a large and superior assortment of Seeds, which we are confident will give general satisfaction.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Rochester, April, 1836. april 9

WILLIAM ATKINSON,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,

17, *Exchange-street, Rochester.*

BUYS and sells Farms and City Property on commission, and attends to the collection of Mortgages.

☞ Several valuable Farms for sale.

February, 1836. feb 20f6m*

NEW IMPORTING ENGLISH

Field and Garden Seed Office,

BY JAMES HOUGHTON,

ARCADE AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N. Y., FIRST DOOR ON THE LEFT FROM BUFFALO ST. ENTRANCE.

ON May the first or before, the above establishment will be opened as a *SEED OFFICE*, with an entire new stock, warranted of last year's growth. They have been selected with great care in England, and with others will be offered at a great per centage lower than they ever were sold in this city, and the public are requested to consult their own interest by not purchasing before this office opens, as they will make a great saving. The Proprietor pledges himself to offer only such seeds as are good, and them at very low prices. The public have great need of an office where they can be sure to have Genuine Seeds at fair prices; and the subsciber is determined to charge only a small remunerating profit. JAMES HOUHTON.

☞ Silk Worm Eggs for sale. ap 9-fy

Improved Durham Short Horned Cattle.

Mr. POWEL'S entire stock of high bred Improved Durham Short Horns, imported or bred by him,

WILL be sold at auction, on Saturday 23d of April next, at 9 o'clock, at Powelton on the Schuylkill, opposite to Philadelphia.

Among them are—Ten Young Bulls and nine Heifers, principally derived from animals selected by Mr. Powel in England, in 1831. But one sale have been made for the last two years, the Cattle having been reserved for the present sale.

apr 2-f1 1t WM. HUGHS.

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nursery.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe* co. N. Y. Sept. 18, 1835.

Seed Corn.

THE subscriber has a quantity of the celebrated 12 rowed Dutton Corn, raised by J. Buel. The advantages of raising this corn are its prolific qualities, being easily made to yield from 70 to 80 bushels to the acre, and its early maturity, ripening in about 100 days from time of planting.

W. THORBURN, Seedsman,
347 N. arket-st. opposite Post Office.

Albany, Dec. 25.—f9

Effects of Grafting on Fruit.

That scions will produce fruit similar to the trees from which they are taken, is a fact well known; but many people are mistaken in supposing that the scions govern wholly, and the stocks have no influence. The scions govern mostly, but as the stocks have some effect in many respects, it is important to horticulturists to examine the subject and learn all the various effects produced by stocks as in many cases it may be turned to great advantage, and in others much disadvantage may be avoided.

Stocks have an effect as to bearing years. Scions cut from trees that bear in alternate years, and put into stocks that bear every year or in alternate years different from the trees from which the scions were taken, will bear every year, though they may have their full and scanty years of bearing. This principle will be of great advantage to the fruit grower, as it will enable him to raise fruit annually of those kinds that without grafting, or by grafting on stocks that bear in the same alternate years, would only bear their fruit every second year.

Stocks affect the scions in hastening or retarding the ripeniug af the fruit. Fruit that ripens too late may be forwarded by engrafting it on stocks that ripen their fruit earlier, and the reverse. This may be turned to good account, and the same fruit may be had in succession by grafting on stocks that ripen their fruit at different periods. We have seen accounts of fruit being accelerated in its ripening one month by this method. Some fruits that are too late for our nothern climate might be ripened here by engrafting on earlier stocks. In this way some excellent kinds of grafts that are now too late, might be ripened in season.

Stocks produce defects on grafted fruit. Stocks that have produced fruit with rotten cores, or with water cores, will, in some cases, produce the same effect in a smaller degree on fruit engrafted on them. We noticed an apple tree that produced water cores in abundance; some of the apples were full of water, which could be plainly seen through the peel. The Newton Sweeting was engrafted in that tree and some of the apples were water cores.

Stocks affect the color of fruit. We have seen apples of the same kind of different colors, owing to the scions being set on different stocks. Some of the apples were red, others of a bright yellow.

Stocks affect the quality of fruit. Scions of the Baldwin apple were set in two trees; one bore very unpleasant fruit, the other bore apples of a very sharp sour, but they had a very rich flavor when mellow; we now have apples from both trees, and we can perceive a difference in the fruit, and that which grew on the last named tree resembled the fruit of that stock in their peculiar rich flavor. Butter or Melting pears are grafted on quince stocks in order to give solidity to flesh: some kinds are made valuable in that way, which otherwise would not be worth cultivating. It is evident that sweet apples, in order to retain their sweetness in full, should be grafted into sweet apple stocks. We seldom see sweet apples from scions so sweet as natural fruit, owing, doubtless, to their being grown on sour stocks.

Stocks have an influence in increasing or decreasing the size of fruit. We have seen accounts of fruit being increased one half in size by being grafted in trees that produced much larger fruit. Perhaps the increase in size was owing in part to the thrift of the scion, as some times an improvement is made in that way without any influence of the stock otherwise than supplying an abundance of sap. We grafted the winter sweeting into a sweet apple tree, that the sweetness of the fruit might not be depreciated; that tree produced excellent fruit, very sweet and good to keep, but it was very small—the scions produced good fruit that kept long, but it was as small as the fruit of the stock; whether that was its common size or not we do not know, but suppose it was owing in a measuse to the stocks.—*Yankee Farmer.*

The Culture of Flax,

Has very much diminished, with the decrease of household manufactures, since the establishment of cotton mills, until very little is now used in the domestic way. In some districts, however, the culture is reviving, for the supply of linen or cordage manufactories, of which we are advised of two in Rensselaer, one in Lewis, and one in Jefferson; and also merely for the seed. This seems like killing sheep for their pelts, and throwing away the carcase. The fibre of flax is certainly worth saving; and with the new facilities of rotting, and machinery for cleaning, it is *a profitable* business, as we intend to show in the sequel. Having had questions propounded to us upon this head, by a correspondent in Yates, who proposes to go extensively into the flax culture for the *profit on the seed*, we will offer some brief remarks upon its culture, and give some illustrations of its being a *profitable culture.*

The soil adapted to flax, is that which contains a large portion of vegetable matter, of a loamy quality, and withal rather moist, though not wet. It is a great exhauster of the soil, if suffered to mature its seed, but less so if pulled green.

The best preparation for flax is a green sward, nicely turned over in the fall, or early in the spring, and harrowed till the surface is perfectly mellow.

The quantity of seed will depend upon the object of culture. If raised for seed only, half a bushel to the acre will suffice; if for the lint only, two bushels are sometimes sown; if for both, an intermediate quantity will answer best. The less seed, within the limits mentioned, the greater will be the product in seed, and less and coarser the product in lint. The seed is always sown broadcast, and always covered with the harrow. The processes of pulling, threshing, &c. are understood by all. If the object is seed, the plants must be mature before they are pulled, which is indicated by the hardened state of the seed vessels, the yellow color of the stems, and the falling off of the leaves. When good *flax* is wanted, pull when the seed has its growth, but not maturity. When wanted for the finest fabrics, as cambrics, &c., pull when it begins to flower. Sow early in May.

The product varies from 300 pounds to half a ton of dressed flax to the acre, and from six to eighteen bushels of seed.

The profits of the crop may in some measure be judged of from the following facts, which we derive from unquestionabl authority.

Mr. T. S. Knapp, of Brownville, sowed thirty-seven acres, partly a grass lay, and partly stubble. His profit upon the crop, after deducting $3 per acre rent, and his labor, was $400, or about $11 per acre.

In 1835, Geo. Brown, Esq., of the same place, sowed twenty-five acres in flax, and realized a nett profit of nearly $500 from the the crop.

In the same year, Maj. Kirby, of the same place, sowed six acres, partly upon stubble, and partly upon green sward, with one ploughing—half a bushel of seed to the acre. The ground was well stocked with Canada thistles, which throve remarkably; yet notwithstanding, the six acres produced him 108 bushels 12 pounds seed, and seven tons and three-quarters of dressed flax.

The proceeds of the crop amounted to, ...	$270
And the culture, pulling and threshing—the rotting being done by the manufacturer—to about.....	70
Leaving a profit of.....	$200

or $33⅓ per acre.—*Cultivator.*

Superior Johnny-Cake.

The following recipe will make a Johnny-cake fit for an alderman, a mayor, an editor, or any other dignitary in the land.

"Take one quart of milk, three eggs, one tea spoonful salæratus, one tea cup of wheat flour, and Indian meal sufficient to make a batter of the consistency of pan-cakes. Bake quick, in pans previously buttered, and eat warm with butter or milk. The addition of wheat flour will be found to be a great improvement in the art of making these cakes."

Robbins' Planting Machine.

WITH this Machine Corn, Beans, Peas, Broom Corn, Mangel Wurtzel, Turneps, Onions, and seeds of almost every description, can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe. One man may easily plant five acres a day, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and in rows two and a half feet apart.

Machines can be had by applying to REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, Rochester; C. N. BEMENT, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; BUSHROD BUCK, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and DANIEL T. BUCK, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand.

Lowville, Nov. 24, 1835. nov 28-6m

New Superior Varieties of Vegetables.

EARLY white Flageolet Bush Beans, *earliest of all and excellent.*
Dwarf white Soissons do. *very productive and nearly stringless.*
French straw colored Dwarf do. *extra early and very productive.*
Large white Soissons Pole do. *excellent green, and when dry equal to the Lima, much earlier and far more productive.*
Early Primitive Pea, *earliest of all.*
Keen's Seedling Pea, *extra early.*
Early Warwick do. *extra early.*
Dwarf green Marrow or Waterloo Blue do. *very fine.*
Groom's superb Dwarf Blue do.
New Grotto Marrow Pea, *very superior.*
Knight's Tall and Dwarf Green Marrow Pea.
Early white Sugar Beet, *sweetest of all.*
Earliest French Cabbage,
Arklie's early Dwarf Cabbage, *extra early.*
Early Emperor do. *very fine and early.*
Bonneuil do. *monstrous heads and finest for autumn.*
Green Paucalier Savoy, *finest of all the Savoys.*
Quintal, *largest for winter for table or cattle.*
Long white Carrot, *sweetest of all.*
Large solid violet Celery, *forms strongest stalks.*
French green table Cucumbers, *medium size but very productive.*
Spanish long green do. *some measured 22 to 24 inches the past season.*
Long Ridge or Hand-Glass do.
Piedmont yellow six weeks Corn, *earliest of all.*
Moore's early yellow do. *very early.*
Early curled Silecia Lettuce or Curled Ice.
Naples curled Cabbage do. *very large, superior, and of beautiful appearance.*
Large Calais Cabbage do. *large heads and very fine.*
Large French Blonde Coss do. *superior.*
Green fleshed netted Romana Melon, *large and superior.*
French Muscade do. *green fleshed and fine.*
Imperial Melon, *rose colored flesh.*
Malta winter do. *very solid, green fleshed, and keeps till February, and above 20 other fine new varieties.*
Early silver skinned Onion, *new and earliest of all white varieties.*
Early red Madeira do. *earliest of all the red varieties.*
Two Bladed Onion.
Early turnep rooted Parsnep.
Yellow tomato shaped Pepper.
Spanish Cheese Pumpkin, *very solid and superior.*
Seven years or long keeping Pumpkin.
Earliest French Scarlet Radish.
Flanders large leaved Spinach.
Monstrous bush Squash, *for summer.*
White Cushaw do. *for autumn.*
Large Teneriffe do. *keeps till March and makes very superior pies.*
Yellow Altringham Turnep, *superior.*
White Swedish Turnep, *devoid of the Pumpkin flavor, and more delicate than the yellow variety.*
Berlin or Teltau do. *par excellence.*

This list embraces but *a few of the newest* varieties. All applications to be made direct per mail, and priced Catalogues will be sent *gratis* to all who desire them. The stock of seeds is the most extensive in America, and the prices in quantity to venders are very moderate, and a convenient credit will be allowed. Of Flower seeds above 600 varieties.

WM. PRINCE & SONS,
Linnæan Botanical Garden and Nurseries,
mar 12-flt *Flushing, near New York.*